

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

*

CRIMINAL NO. 12-177

v.

*

SECTION: “E”

SHIRLEY A. BUNDA

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FACTUAL BASIS

The defendant, **SHIRLEY A. BUNDA** (hereinafter, the “defendant” or “Bunda”), has agreed to plead guilty as charged to the one-count bill of information charging her with theft of government money, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 641. Should this matter proceed to trial, both the Government and the defendant, **SHIRLEY A. BUNDA**, do hereby stipulate and agree that the following facts set forth a sufficient factual basis for the crimes to which the defendant is pleading guilty. The Government and the defendant further stipulate that the Government would have proven, through the introduction of competent testimony and admissible, tangible exhibits, the following facts, beyond a reasonable doubt, to support the allegations in the bill of information now pending against the defendant.

The United States Social Security Administration (“SSA”) is an agency of the United States created to provide for the general welfare by establishing a system of federal benefits. Specifically, SSA is responsible for the administration of numerous programs including, but not limited to, SSA

retirement benefits, survivors and disability insurance programs (“RSDI”), the Supplemental Security Income program for aged and disabled indigent persons (“SSI”), and Social Security Account Number issuance, reporting, and recording.

SSA is also charged with administering benefits under the Social Security Title II (“SST2”) program. SST2 benefits are paid to aged (*i.e.*, 62 years old and over), blind and disabled persons who have worked long enough in employment covered by Social Security to meet insured status requirements. Other persons, such as a spouse, a widow(er), minor children, and survivors may also be entitled to SST2 benefits.

Defendant **BUNDA**’s mother, L.A., received SSA Title II benefits (“SST2”) as a widow of J.A. after his death in March 1986. All SST2 benefits paid to L.A were paid via direct deposit to a JP Morgan Chase Bank (“Chase Bank”) joint checking account # *****2598. Defendant **BUNDA** shared the Chase Bank joint checking account # *****2598 with her mother, L.A. On February 15, 1998 L.A. died. At no time after her mother died did defendant **BUNDA** inform any SSA employee of L.A.’s death.

Defendant **BUNDA** has cooperated with agents from the Social Security Administration, Office of Inspector General, since the inception of this investigation and has admitted to illegally receiving the social security benefits paid to her mother after her death on February 15, 1998 until August 3, 2011 and to using the funds for her own gain and benefit.

From on or about February 15, 1998 to on or about August 3, 2011 in the Eastern District of Louisiana, the defendant, **SHIRLEY A. BUNDA**, received the SST2 benefits paid by SSA to her deceased mother and used the funds for her own gain and benefit. In total, the defendant, **BUNDA**,

received SST2 benefits after L.A.'s death in the amount of \$173,297.00 to which she was not entitled.

After these benefits were deposited in the Chase Bank joint checking account ##*****2598, the defendant, **BUNDA**, cashed, accessed and withdrew the SST2 benefits and converted them to her personal use, all the while knowing that she was not entitled to receive them. By engaging in the behavior outlined above, the defendant, **SHIRLEY A. BUNDA**, did knowingly embezzle, steal, purloin, and convert to her own use funds of the Social Security Administration to which she knew she was not entitled in the amount of approximately \$173,297.00

The above facts come from an investigation conducted by, and would be proven at trial by credible testimony from, agents from the United States Social Security Administration, Office of Inspector General, documents and records of the United States Social Security Administration and J.P Morgan Chase Bank, and the statements and admissions of the defendant, **SHIRLEY A. BUNDA**.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED:

SHIRLEY A. BUNDA
Defendant

Date

JULIA K. EVANS
Assistant United States Attorney

Date

RICHARD KOHNKE, SR.
Attorney for Defendant

Date